

**From:** [R6HarveySITL](#)  
**To:** [R6HarveyInfo](#)  
**Subject:** FW: System Wide Update Press Release 9-29  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:07:10 AM

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**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:07:07 AM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Smith, Monica; Smalley, Bryant; Carroll, Craig; Edlund, Carl; Gray, David  
**Cc:** R6HarveySITL  
**Subject:** System Wide Update Press Release 9-29

TCEQ updated response information through 9/29 and posted it on Monday 10/2. I have made changes to the EPA website to reflect their update and include more EPA Superfund data.  
David

Check out our Hurricane Harvey Story Map [here](#).

To report fraud, waste or abuse impacting EPA, please contact the EPA OIG Hotline by calling 202-566-2476 or toll-free 888-546-8740, by faxing 202-566-2599, or by emailing at [oig\\_hotline@epa.gov](mailto:oig_hotline@epa.gov).

EPA has created an online repository for [Hurricane Harvey Response Documents](#).

Working together, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality continue to coordinate with local, state and federal officials to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, especially the water systems in the affected areas. The TCEQ has approximately 500 people and EPA has 57 people assisting in response to this natural disaster.

As part of this coordination, a Unified Command was established between the EPA, the TCEQ, the General Land Office, and the U.S. Coast Guard to oversee all emergency response efforts. This Unified Command is supported by three operational branches in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Port Arthur. In addition to the EPA, the TCEQ, the GLO, and the USCG, multiple agencies and groups are supporting each of the operational branches, including the Texas National Guard, 6th Civil Support Team; the Arkansas National Guard, 61st Civil Support Team; the Oklahoma Task Force 1; and the Texas State Guard Engineering Group. Branch personnel are working to continuously monitor water and wastewater systems, as well as assess spills or discharges as a result of the storm.

As of Friday Sept 29, the following information is available:

**Drinking Water:** To date, about 2,238 drinking water systems have been affected by Harvey. Of those: 38 have boil-water notices, and 5 are shut down. The TCEQ is contacting remaining systems to gather updated information on their status. Assistance teams are in the field working directly with system operators to expedite getting systems back to operational status.

**Wastewater and Sewage:** The TCEQ has made contact with 1,743 wastewater treatment plants in the 58 counties within the Governor's Disaster Declaration. Of those, seven are inoperable in the affected counties. The agencies are aware that releases of wastewater from sanitary sewers are occurring as a result of the historic flooding and are actively working to monitor facilities that have reported spills. Additionally, the agencies are conducting outreach and providing technical guidance to all other wastewater facilities in flood-impacted areas. Assistance teams will continue to be deployed to work directly with system operators to expedite getting systems back to operational status.

On Sept. 25, 2017, the EPA provided written explanation to FEMA allowing proceeds from State Revolving Loan Funds to be used to address immediate recovery and future resiliency efforts in Texas. The EPA is also reviewing a Texas Water Development Board request that certain water infrastructure projects be exempt from American Iron and Steel requirements. [The public interest waiver request from the TWDB is posted for the required 15-day public comment period](#) which closes Oct. 13, 2017.

**Flood Water:** Water quality sampling will be focused on industrial facilities and hazardous waste sites. Floodwaters contain many hazards, including bacteria and other contaminants. Precautions should be taken by anyone involved in cleanup activities or any others who may be exposed to flood waters. These precautions include heeding all warnings from local and state authorities regarding safety advisories. In addition to the drowning hazards of wading, swimming, or driving in swift floodwaters, these waters can carry large objects that are not always readily visible that can cause injuries to those in the water. Other potential hazards include downed power lines and possible injuries inflicted by animals displaced by the floodwaters.

**Critical Water Infrastructure:** The TCEQ has made contact with the owners of the 340 dams in the impacted areas. There are 17 dams that have reported some type of damage; four of these dams failed. There have been no reports of downstream damage or loss of life.

Additional EPA/TCEQ updates include:

**Superfund Sites:** The EPA and the TCEQ continue to get updates about the status of specific sites from the parties responsible for ongoing cleanup of the sites. The TCEQ has completed the assessment of all 17 state Superfund sites in the affected area. There were no major issues noted. The TCEQ will continue to monitor sites to ensure no further action is needed in regards to the storm.

All 43 Superfund NPL sites in the hurricane affected area have been assessed. Of these, 42 sites have been cleared. Post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data results are being published ([www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey)) and quality assured data should be available in about 2 weeks.

The San Jacinto River Waste Pits site requires additional follow up. EPA received preliminary data from sediment samples collected by EPA's dive team from fourteen areas at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. Samples from one of the fourteen areas confirmed the protective cap had been damaged and the underlying waste material was exposed. The sample showed dioxins above 70,000 ng/kg. EPA recommend clean up level for the site is 30 ng/kg. EPA is directing the potentially responsible parties to take immediate action to address damage to the protective cap and high-levels of underlying waste material found at one of the samples on site. [EPA press release](#), [Photo: Dive teams assessing San Jacinto Waste Pits cap](#), [San Jacinto Waste Pits Areas of Interest Map](#).

**San Jacinto Waste Pits** EPA has posted quality assured data collected by the potentially responsible parties. Preliminary data discussed above will be released as soon as the quality assured data package is available. Quality assured data should be available in about 2 weeks. [Data Validation Report \(12 pages\)](#), [Data - discolored area \(LARGE 79.8 MB FILE, 502 pages\)](#), [Data \(LARGE 89.4 MB FILE, 564 pages\)](#).

**U.S. Oil Recovery UPDATED 9/28/17** [Summary](#), [400 N. Richey Data \(57 pages\)](#), [400 N. Richey Data \(Groundwater 47 pages\)](#), [400 N. Richey Data \(136 pages\)](#), [200 N. Richey Data UPDATED 10/2/2017 \(111 pages\)](#).

**Highlands Acid Pits UPDATED 9/16** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS, 49 pages\)](#), [Data \(34 pages\)](#).

**United Creosoting Company UPDATED 9/16** [Summary](#), [Data \(19 pages\)](#), [Data \(40 pages\)](#).

**Conroe Creosoting UPDATED 9/15** [Summary](#), [Data \(21 pages\)](#), [Data \(PHILIS, 38 pages\)](#).

**Brio UPDATED 9/22** [Summary](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**Tex Tin** [Summary](#), [Data \(2 pages\)](#), [Data \(35 pages\)](#).

**Sheridan Disposal Services UPDATED 10/2/2017** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS, 42 pages\)](#), [Data \(30](#)

[pages](#)), [Data \(18 pages\)](#).

**Dixie Oil Processors** [Summary Data \(27 pages\)](#).

**Malone Service** [Summary](#), [Data \(2 pages\)](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**Crystal Chemical** [Summary](#), [Data \(84 pages\)](#).

**Star Lake Canal** [Summary](#), [Data \(29 pages\)](#).

**MOTCO** [Summary](#), [Data \(23 pages\)](#).

**Sol Lynn/Industrial Transformers** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 60 pages\)](#).

**Patrick Bayou** [here](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 32 pages\)](#).

**Gulf States Utilities/North Ryan Street** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 44 pages\)](#).

**Sikes Disposal Pits** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 56 pages\)](#), [Data \(31 pages\)](#).

**Geneva Industries** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 46 pages\)](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**Triangle Chemical Company** [Summary](#), [Data \(21 pages\)](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 46 pages\)](#).

**EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining** [Summary](#), [Data \(27 pages\)](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 37 pages\)](#).

**Hart Creosoting Company** [Summary](#), [Data \(35 pages\)](#).

**American Creosote - Deridder UPDATE 9/18** [Summary](#), [Data \(26 pages\)](#).

**Palmer Barge Line** [Summary](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**Gulf Coast Vacuum Services** [Summary](#), [Data \(31 pages\)](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 15 pages\)](#).

**Harris/Farley Street** [Summary](#), [Data \(30 pages\)](#).

**D.L. Mudd, Inc.** [Summary](#), [Data \(23 pages\)](#).

**Alcoa/Lavaca Bay** [Summary](#), [Data \(22 pages\)](#).

**Jones Road** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 39 pages\)](#).

**French Unlimited Inc.** [Summary](#), [Data \(53 pages\)](#).

**Gulfco Marine Maintenance** [Summary](#), [Data \(43 pages\)](#).

**Mallard Bay Bulk Plant** [Summary](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**Brine Service Company** [Summary](#), [Data \(42 pages\)](#).

**Bailey Waste Disposal** [Summary](#), [Data \(56 pages\)](#).

**Falcon Refinery** [Summary](#), [Data \(37 pages\)](#).

**Rustin Foundry** [Summary](#), [Data \(12 pages\)](#).

**PAB Oil & Chemical Services, Inc** [Summary](#), [Data \(60 pages\)](#).

**Many Diversified Interest** [Summary](#), [Data \(24 pages\)](#).

**State Marine Services of Port Arthur** [Summary](#), [Data \(25 pages\)](#).

**South Cavalcade Street** [Summary](#), [Data \(29 pages\)](#), [Data \(4 pages\)](#).

**North Cavalcade Street** [Summary](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 55 pages\)](#), [Data \(21 pages\)](#).

**SBA Shipyard UPDATED 10/2/2017** [here](#).

**Jasper Creosoting Company** [Summary](#), [Data \(56 pages\)](#).

**Petro-Chemical Systems** [Summary](#), [Data \(20 pages\)](#), [Data \(40 pages\)](#), [Data \(PHILIS. 57 pages\)](#), [Data \(39 pages\)](#).

**Debris Management:** The TCEQ has approved 178 Temporary Debris Management Sites in areas under the Federal or State Disaster Declaration designations. View a map of all Temporary Debris Management Sites at [here](#).

TCEQ regional offices and local authorities are actively overseeing the siting and implementation of debris and waste management plans in the affected area. The EPA, the TCEQ, and Army Corps of Engineer field observers are visiting staging and landfills to ensure compliance with guidelines. The EPA has participated in over 200 joint site observations and expects to conclude its activities next week. EPA observers have reported that the TCEQ is providing onsite compliance assistance and follow-up visits to confirm compliance with permits. The TCEQ plans to conduct site visits as long as approved debris staging areas are processing debris and transferring debris to landfills. EPA Community Liaisons continue to provide federal and state guidance and best practices to thousands of individuals that are dealing with potential hazards in damaged or lost homes.

The TCEQ and EPA released 'Handling Debris During Natural Disasters' fact sheets in [English Flyer](#), [Spanish Flyer](#), [Vietnamese Flyer](#).

**Reconnaissance/Orphan Containers:** The TCEQ continues to lead in monitoring facilities that have reported spills. Unified Command has completed initial hazmat reconnaissance and recovery activities

associated with hurricane impacts. Orphan containers, which include drums and tanks, found floating in or washed up near waterways continue to be gathered, sorted and grouped by type, prior to shipping them off for safe, proper treatment and disposal. All branches of the Unified Command have collected over 1,088 orphan containers and have responded to approximately 266 reported spills or discharges. USCG and the Texas General Land Office will continue to complete Vessel Recovery activities.

**Air Quality Monitoring:** One of the many preparations for Hurricane Harvey included the EPA, the TCEQ, and other monitoring entities temporarily shutting down several air monitoring stations from the greater Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont areas to protect valuable equipment from storm damage. Since then, state and local authorities have been working to get the systems up and running again as soon as possible. As of Friday, Sept. 29, the TCEQ's air monitoring network is 100 percent operational. All measured concentrations were well below levels of health concern.

Both TCEQ and EPA investigators have spent numerous hours, both day and night, monitoring neighborhoods and industrial fence lines with hand-held instruments, such as optical gas imaging cameras (OGIC), toxic vapor analyzers, summa canisters, and portable multi-gas monitors. The use of these tools allows for the most effective source identification for drifting volatile organic compound (VOC) plumes so that swift action can be taken to address the cause of these emissions. TCEQ investigators in the Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beaumont regional offices routinely conduct reconnaissance monitoring near industrial fence lines and adjacent communities. Reconnaissance monitoring has been conducted in these areas with increased frequency to identify potential emission sources. In furthering efforts to monitor storm impacted areas and address emission sources, the TCEQ conducted aerial surveys in the Houston and Beaumont areas using a helicopter equipped with an OGIC that can image VOCs and other hydrocarbons invisible to the eye and EPA's Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) plane conducted real-time sampling of potential emission targets. ASPECT completed flyovers of the facilities impacted by the hurricane on September 11, 2017. The EPA completed air quality analyses using their Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) mobile monitoring system on September 20, 2017. The TAGA conducted monitoring in Houston (9/5-7 and 9/10-12), Deer Park (9/14), Baytown (9/15), Sweeny and Texas City (9/17), Beaumont, Port Arthur, Victoria, and Point Comfort (9/18), and Corpus Christi (9/19-20). The results from continuous air monitors, hand-held instruments, ASPECT and TAGA have shown no levels of immediate health concern.

TAGA data summary reports for September 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 are available under 'documents' section of this website. Two TAGA mobile air monitoring buses began monitoring air quality around additional industrial sources in Texas. Additional TAGA reports for September 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 are available under 'documents' section of this website.

EPA also sent its aerial surveillance aircraft to conduct a screening level assessment to evaluate unreported or undetected releases from facilities with Risk Management and/or Response Plans within the hurricane impacted areas. EPA's plane instrumentation measured 13 chemicals. The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft found no exceedances of the Texas comparison values. The screening level results from ASPECT were compared to the ASPECT list of the TCEQ's short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs. This [report](#) covers the flights dated from 4 September – 11 September 2017.

ASPECT Sept 11 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 11 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 10 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 10 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 9 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 9 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 8 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 8 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 7 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 7 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 6 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 6 Flight 1 [report](#)

ASPECT Sept 5 Flight 1 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 4 Flight 2 [report](#)  
ASPECT Sept 4 Flight 1 [report](#)

EPA has completed its air monitoring activities related to Hurricane Harvey. Both TAGAs and the ASPECT have been demobilized.

**Refineries/Fuel Waivers:** EPA approved the request from the State of Texas to continue to waive requirements for fuels in Texas through the end of the month to help address the emergency circumstances in Texas from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

At the request of the State of Texas, EPA extended three No Action Assurance letters that are effective immediately to September 29, 2017. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions against tanker trucks for certain provisions of the Clean Air Act and parallel Texas regulations that relate to tank tightness and registration for tanker trucks. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act for emissions of certain air pollutants from gasoline storage tanks during events known as "roof landings." EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act that require the operation of these devices at bulk fuel terminals.

EPA provided a No Action Assurance (NAA) for the import of 255 power generators by the Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. (Yamaha), to be donated for use in communities impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in Texas and Florida, to assist in recovery efforts. These power generation units do not bear the emission control information labels required by the Clean Air Act.

**Arkema Plant Fire Update:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its response support to the Crosby Volunteer Fire Department and the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office for the catastrophic event at Arkema. A copy of EPA press release and summary information is [available](#).

For additional information please visit [here](#).

View the EPA Story Map about Hurricane Harvey Response activities [here](#).

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**From:** Smith, Monica  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 11:00 AM  
**To:** Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov>; Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>; Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** R6HarveySITL <R6HarveySITL@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: System Wide Update Press Release 9-21-17\_EL LW mh edits.docx

Double checked number. Have a correction, it is 57.

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**From:** Smith, Monica  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 10:55 AM  
**To:** Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>; Smalley, Bryant <[smalley.bryant@epa.gov](mailto:smalley.bryant@epa.gov)>; Carroll, Craig <[Carroll.Craig@epa.gov](mailto:Carroll.Craig@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** R6HarveySITL <[R6HarveySITL@epa.gov](mailto:R6HarveySITL@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: System Wide Update Press Release 9-21-17\_EL LW mh edits.docx

The current number of EPA staff working on the response in all areas is 58.

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**From:** Gray, David

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2017 11:48 AM

**To:** Smith, Monica <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>; Smalley, Bryant <[smalley.bryant@epa.gov](mailto:smalley.bryant@epa.gov)>; Carroll, Craig <[Carroll.Craig@epa.gov](mailto:Carroll.Craig@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: System Wide Update Press Release 9-21-17\_EL LW mh edits.docx

After today, we will do an update once a week on Thursdays. I have highlighted some EPA info that might need to be updated. Please feel free to edit at will.

Thanks,  
Ryan